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F R I D A Y H I G H L I G H T S

+ Security Council welcomes agreements on cease-fire and cessation of hostilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina; calls on all forces to cease fighting around Bihac.

+ Secretary-General leaves New York to visit Nordic countries and Germany; will attend some meetings in Geneva.

+ United Nations and Jordan sign Memorandum of Understanding on Stand-by Arrangements for peace-keeping operations.

+ Security Council Sanctions Committees elect Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen for 1995.

+ Member States owe United Nations almost $1.8 billion as of 31 December; $480 million owed to regular budget and $1.3 billion to peace-keeping.

+ Special Representative Khan to attend seven-nation summit on Rwanda refugee problem in Nairobi tomorrow.

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The Security Council today welcomed the agreements on a cease-fire and on a complete cessation of hostilities in Bosnia and Herzegovina concluded by the Bosnian parties on 23 and 31 December respectively. In a statement read out by its President, Emilio J. Cardenas (Argentina), the Council stressed the importance of immediate and full compliance with the agreements. It called on all forces to cease fighting around Bihac.

The Council said it attached the highest priority to the timely completion of the various steps envisaged in the agreement on a complete cessation of hostilities. It looked to all concerned to cooperate fully with the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in their implementation. It also expressed support for efforts underway to strengthen UNPROFOR, and encouraged Member States to make available the personnel and equipment needed for the Force to supervise and monitor the agreements.

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The Council deemed it imperative to intensify efforts under the auspices of the Contact Group to achieve an overall settlement on the basis of the acceptance of the Group's peace plan. It added that it would give its full support to such efforts.

Meanwhile, the cease-fire continued to hold in Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the exception of the Bihac area, according to a United Nations spokesman. However, the situation in the enclave had improved after several days of fighting. A convoy carrying desperately needed fuel and other supplies reached the Bangladeshi UNPROFOR battalion stationed there last night, after being held up for 48 hours.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali was scheduled to leave New York today for a visit to the Nordic countries and Germany, according to a United Nations spokesman. He was also expected to attend some meetings in Geneva, including talks on East Timor beginning on 9 January.

The spokesman said the main topics for discussion during the visit would be the World Summit for Social Development, to be held in Copenhagen in March, and peace-keeping. The Secretary-General hoped that his position paper on peace-keeping -- a supplement to his 1992 report "An Agenda for Peace" -- would stimulate debate in Member States, he added.

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The United Nations and the Government of Jordan yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Stand-by Arrangements for peace-keeping operations. The Organization was represented at the signing ceremony by the Under-Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations, Kofi Annan, while Jordan was represented by Ambassador Adnan Abu Odeh.

Under the Memorandum, Jordan will earmark military, civilian police, civilian specialists and services for United Nations peace-keeping operations. It is the first such Memorandum to be signed, following two years of preliminary contacts with interested Member States. Up to now, 34 States have committed themselves to making stand-by arrangements with the Organization.

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The Security Council's Sanctions Committees, which are composed of all members of the Council, have elected their respective Bureaus for 1995. The Chairman of the Committee established by resolution 661 (1990) concerning the situation between Iraq and Kuwait is Detlev Graf Zu Rantzau (Germany), with Botswana and the Czech Republic as Vice-Chairmen; the Chairman of the

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Committee established pursuant to resolution 724 (1991) concerning Yugoslavia is Emilio J. Cardenas (Argentina), with Nigeria and Oman as Vice-Chairmen; and the Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 748 (1992) concerning Libya is Karel Kovanda (Czech Republic), with Germany and Oman as Vice-Chairmen.

The Chairman of the Sanctions Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia is Salim Bin Mohammed Al-Khussaiby (Oman), with Honduras and Rwanda as Vice-Chairmen; the Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 864 (1993) concerning the situation in Angola is M. Francesco Paolo Fulci (Italy), with Honduras and Indonesia as Vice-Chairmen; and the Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda is Nugroho Wisnumurti (Indonesia), with Botswana and Italy as Vice-Chairmen.

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As of 31 December, Member States owed the United Nations almost $1.8 billion, according to the latest update on the Organization's financial situation. Of that amount, $480 million was for assessments for the regular budget and some $1.3 billion was for peace-keeping operations. Regular budget assessments for 1995 were sent out to Member States on 1 January.

The Russian Federation -- the largest debtor -- owed $507 million to the peace-keeping budget. The United States owed the United Nations a total of $469 million.

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The Secretary-General's Special Representative for Rwanda, Shahryar Khan, will attend a seven-nation summit on the country's refugee problem in Nairobi tomorrow, according to a United Nations spokesman. The summit will seek to work out the concept of security zones for the return of refugees.

The nations participating in the summit will be Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire and Zambia. The United Nations, the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will be present as observers.

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